WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Pollution from Petrol and Diesel in the Metropolitan Cities

*102. SHRI BIR BHADRA PRATAP SINGH:
SHRI BHAGATRAM MANHAR:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that pollution emitted from petrol and diesel has increased in the metropolitan cities during the last two years;

(b) if so, whether it is also a fact that permissible standards for emission notified under the Motor (Vehicles) Act are not being implemented by the vehicle owners;

(c) if so, what steps are being taken by Government to check emission from Petrol and diesel driven vehicles; and

(d) whether the Conference recently held on Environmental Pollution have made number of recommendations on the subject and if so, the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) No, Sir. The steps taken by Government to check emission from petrol and diesel driven vehicles include the following:—

(i) Gross and mass emission standards for petrol as well as diesel-driven vehicles have been notified under the Motor Vehicles Rules, 1989.

(ii) The Ministry of Surface Transport have advised the various State Transport Directorates to implement the gross emission standards notified under Rule 115(2) of the Motor Vehicles Rules, 1989 which have come into force from March 1, 1990. The State Transport Directorates have been further advised that in the initial period of a month or so the objective should be to educate the people and make them aware of pollution standards.

(iii) The Petroleum Industry has been asked to bring down the lead content in petrol to 0.15 gms/litre by 1993.

(iv) The Directorate of Transport, Delhi Administration has launched an education and awareness drive which consists of advertising campaign, checking of vehicles and issuing of warning slips to the vehicles which do not conform to the prescribed standards.

(d) The recommendations made on the subject in the recently held Conference of Officers of the State and Union Territories and Central Government on Environmental Pollution Control include the following:—

—Notification of the equipment by each State Government under Rule 116(3) of Motor Vehicles Rules, 1989.

—Promotion of private testing facilities in approved laboratory or petrol stations.

—Awareness campaigns about vehicular pollution and manpower training for enforcement of Rules.

—Improvements in the design of the vehicles from pollution control point of view.

—Regulation of the traffic and town planning including transportation planning.